

Message Text

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SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP TO MORTON/OPREA DISCUSSION OF

--- JUNE 11, 1975

REF: 1) STATE 146593; 2) MEMCON OPREA/MORTON JUNE 11, 1975

1. ON JUNE 27 GHEORGHE IONITA, COUNSELOR AT ROMANIAN EMBASSY, TOGETHER WITH ROMANIAN OFFICIALS FROM NEW YORK COMMERCIAL OFFICE, MET WITH COMMERCE/BEWT OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS FOLLOW UP TO OPREA/MORTON MEETING OF JUNE 11. DURING THIS EARLIER MEETING, OPREA HAD SUGGESTED THAT ROMANIANS COULD PREPARE A LIST OF PRODUCTS THEY ARE INTERESTED IN SELLING AND BUYING AND A LIST OF AREAS UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR COOPERATION AND POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURES. THE REVIEW

AND DISCUSSION OF THESE POTENTIAL AREAS FOR TRADE AND COOPERATION WOULD ISOLATE AND IDENTIFY GENERAL PROBLEMS, SPECIFIC ISSUES AND POSSIBLE MAJOR PROJECTS APPROPRIATE FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA FOR ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETING.

2. ROMANIANS PRESENTED COMMERCE WITH FOUR EXTREMELY GENERAL LISTS INCLUDING PRODUCTS THEY DESIRE TO EXPORT TO U.S.; JOINT VENTURE AND OTHER COOPERATION ARRANGEMENTS THEY HAVE INITIATED WITH U.S. COMPANIES; TECHNOLOGY THEY

DESIRE TO PURCHASE; AND CERTAIN EXPORT CONTROL CASES. LISTS ARE PRELIMINARY AND THEREFORE NOT NECESSARILY EXHAUSTIVE. LISTS CONTAIN NAMES OF COMPANIES ALREADY CONTACTED BY ROMANIANS, INCLUDING COMPANIES WHICH HAVE EXPRESSED DISINTEREST. LISTS REFLECT NO AGRIBUSINESS PROJECTS. COMMERCE WAS REQUESTED TO REVIEW THE DOCUMENTS IN PREPARATION FOR MORE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF SPECIFICS WHICH HAS BEEN TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR JULY 11.

3. ROMANIANS ALSO ASKED COMMERCE ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING MARKET DATA FOR SOME OF THEIR EXPORT PRODUCTS. MANY ROMANIAN PRODUCTS ARE CURRENTLY IMPEDED FROM U.S. MARKET DUE TO HIGH NON MFN TARIFFS. COMMERCE PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THIS MATTER.

4. IONITA ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT ROMANIANS DESIRE TO SEND DELEGATION TO U.S. TO FOLLOW UP ON LISTS PRIOR TO ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETING. IN RESPONSE TO ROMANIAN QUESTION AS TO POSSIBLE TIMING OF VISIT, COMMERCE SUGGESTED MID-AUGUST TO MID-SEPTEMBER. ROMANIANS THEN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT VISIT COULD OCCUR SOONER. QUESTION OF TIMING FINALLY LEFT FOR NEXT MEETING BETWEEN IONITA AND COMMERCE OFFICIALS ON JULY 11.

5. COMMERCE HOPES TO HAVE CLEARER IDEA OF DIRECTION OF DISCUSSIONS AND NATURE OF FUTURE ROMANIAN VISIT FOLLOWING JULY 11 MEETING. WILL ADVISE EMBASSY OF RESULTS OF MEETING.

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6. COPIES OF FOUR LISTS BEING POUCHED TO THE EMBASSY. KISSINGER

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